THE COMIC READER
No. 76

FROM:
THE ACADEMY OF COMIC ART FANS AND COLLECTORS
G.P.O. BOX 449, FLUSHING, N.Y., 11352

To:

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first class

COMIC FANDOM'S OLDEST NEWSZINE

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So what do you want from my life!?!
I know. I know!! TCR is late again. Honestly, I thought I'd be able to get this one out in early December. I didn't make it. You may not believe it, but it probably bothers me more than it does you. Okay! Enough of this. TCR # 77 is suppossed to be out in late January. Anyone wanna take any bets?!

Look, I know Christmas is almost here, and I appreciate the cards from those who've bothered to send them, but I've got this thing against cards (any kinda card: Xmas, B'thd'y, Deathday, anything day). Anyway, if I was ever gonna send any kind of card it would be

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* PEACE *
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but I don't, so forget it!

I want to thank Glen Johnson and Bobby Vann for their newsleads. Thank you, gentleman!

The 1969 Alley Awards Ballot is being mailed with this issue; and copies are available to non-subscribers for a stamped, self-addressed envelope. This year's ballot has been simplified, and we think you'll find it more managable.

PLUG: The Collector's Guide: The First Heroic Age (vol. I) is now available from Jerry Bails (P.O. Box 7499, Northend Station, Detroit, Mich. 48202) at $5.00 per copy. It is the most complete index to all of the costumed hero & super-hero strips that appeared from 1934 through the late '40's that is available. All appearances, and known writers and artists who worked on the feature are listed. An invaluable tool to any collector or researcher.

ON THE DRAWING BOARD

The TOWER publishing company has gone out of the business of publishing comic books. No more Tippy Teen, much less T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents. So now it's safe to perminently bind your copies.

That chain of Archie hamburger stands I mentioned last issue will not come to be. Instead, the Wetson chain will be the one featuring Archie burgers, Jughead shakes, etc.

Bob Kane had a one man show of his paintings at Galerie Internationale this past Nov. 11 thru Nov. 22.

Aurora plastics has discontinued all of their comic book and comic strip models (with the exception of the new upcoming Archie car kit). So, if you've been meaning to pick up a certain kit or two, you'd better jump! A TV commercial for a new Aurora game has been filmed for showing around Christmas time. It features Batman & Robin playing "Bounce Back" against the notorious 'Bouncer'. The actors portraying The Dynamic Duo are not those from the TV series, and the costumes leave something to be desired.

The New York Times Magazine section for Nov. 23, 1969 carried an article entitled "The Men Behind Dastardly & Muttley" by John Culhane (an associate editor of Newsweek who is writing a history of Film Animation). The article covered the Hanna-Barbera studios, the Saturday morning cartoon secene, and (briefly) touched upon the "Golden Age" (to quote a cliche) of animation.

We've gone pretty far afield with some of our news items at times, but now we're going farther out than we ever have before!:
The Ovaltine Food Company is manufacturing a candied popcorn confection called SCREAMING YELLOW ZONKERS. You may not like the product, but I suggest you buy yourself a box.....and READ IT! IT'S FUNNY! Somebody had himself a ball satirizing the packaging industry, and you've got to see it to believe it. It's worthy of the Mad magazine group. Anybody want to join my SCREAMING YELLOW ZONKERS fandom???

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BOOKS

The Collected Works Of BUCK ROGERS IN THE 25th CENTURY is a big, 400 page, 10" X 14" back-breaker of a book from Chelsea House Publishers at $12.50. The book is distributed by Random House, and if you're willing to shop around you probably can pick it up at a discount price (I got my copy for $10.00). The volume contains a nostalgic introduction by Ray Bradbury, and a compilation of 12 story sequences taken from the early years of the strip (1929 - 1946), of which, 64 pages are in color. Unfortunately, some of the sequences are not entirely complete (some are ended abruptly; some are begun in the middle), but the book certainly is worth any collector's money.

We're sorry to report that the Nostalgia Book Club's edition of Don Thompson and Dick Lupoff's "All In Color For A Dime" has run into a little difficulty, and will not be published until next April, at the earliest.

PEANUTS DEPT.: Holt, Rinehart & Winston has published a batch of new Peanuts books (just in time to cash in on Christmas!) including: Snoopy And His Sopwith Camel (a sequel to Snoopy & The Red Baron) at $2.00; A Boy Named Charlie Brown (taken from the current movie release) in a large volume at $5.95; and at the same price, Charlie Brown's Yearbook (a collection of the older hardcovers that includes Charlie Brown's All-Stars; He's Your Dog, Charlie Brown; It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown; and You're In Love, Charlie Brown). Signet books now also has full-sized editions of the older hardcovers available in soft-cover, each with a $1.29 cover price. The titles currently available are: A Charlie Brown Christmas; It's The Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown; Charlie Brown's All-Stars; and You're In Love, Charlie Brown.

The first two books in the Spider series we mentioned last issue were released under a special two-for-the-price-of-one deal (you get Spider # 2 free when you buy # 1). The writing in the first two books in the series is pretty bad. However, a different writer took over the series with the third story, and since the magazine lasted for 110 issues, the rest of the stories have GOT to be better. Berkley Medallion will release Spider # 3 in January, and Spider # 4, released in March, will be the first with a cover by Jim Steranko. The first two, simultaneously-released editions of the G-8 series will not have a two-for-one deal. Now available from Berkley is Thongor And The Wizard Of Lemuria by Lin Carter (# X1777, 60¢), a revised and expanded edition of the Ace book, Wizard Of Lemuria.

Lancer Books: The eleventh book in the CONAN series will be released in June or July; the twelfth and final book is scheduled for release next Fall. Jim Steranko has done the cover for the January release, Infinity One (the first book in a series of new-material collections). February will see Steranko covers on Return To The Stars (sequel to The Star Kings) by Edmond Hamilton, and Master Of The Dark Gate by John Jakes (Jakes wrote the book around the Steranko painting). In March, the first four Conan books (sequentially) will be republished, and "The Dark Symphony" by Dean R. Koontz will be released. For swords & sorcery fans, there's David Mason's "The Sorcerer's Skull" (title subject to change) in April.

Popular Library: Available in December is "Captain Future & The Space Emperor" by Edmond Hamilton (# 60-2457, 60¢). I've been told that there will be no Capt. Future releases in either Jan. or Feb., but I'm not sure of the reliability of my source. The fourth MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE book, Code Name: Little Ivan by John Tiger (# 60-2464, 60¢), is available in December. The book was written before the big change-over in the TV series, and it shows!

Bantam Books: The schedule for the release of the next 5 Doc Savage books is: Dec. - The Man Who Shook The Earth; Jan. - The Sea Magician; Feb. - The Men Who Smiled Nomore; Mar. - The Midas Man; Apr. - The Land Of Long JuJu. No new releases in The Shadow series is scheduled thru April, although, if the series proves to be a big seller, a title can be scheduled before than. Due in February is STAR TREK # 4, "Spock Must Die!" a new novel by James Blish. Trekees rejoice!

Tempo Books (the paperback arm of Grosset & Dunlop) has released a paperback Shadow novel, reprinted from a 1940's Shadow pulp, using the logo Weird Tales Of The Shadow. This is one of the three stories printed in the Grosset & Dunlop hardcover of the same name.

Ace Books: Out in December is Great Moments In Hysteria, written by Paul Bernstein and illustrated by Warren Sattler (#30254, 60¢), which is done in cartoon format. Some of the material in the book appeared in National Comics publications as Scooter's Hip History. ((Even if you don't buy the book, take a glance at the last page.)) Also released in Dec. is It Takes A Thief # 2, "Mediterranean Caper" by Gil Brewer (# 37599, 60¢). January sees the release of The Man From U.N.C.L.E. # 20, "The Corfu Affair" by John T. Phillipham, originally published in Great Britain. The 21st U.N.C.L.E. book is set for May.

Ballantine Books: The seventh thru twelfth books in the Tarzan series have been re-released with new covers KRBanites be fore-warned! "Nomads Of Gor" by John Norman (# 01765, 75¢), the fourth book in the series, is now available.

Pyramid Books now has available Land Of The Giants # 3, "Unknown Danger" by Murray Leinster (# X-2105, 60¢).

Signet Books: Out in December is a S & S novel by Lin Carter entitled "Lost World Of Time" (# P 4068, 60¢). Due out in Feb. is an all-new MAD book, The MAD Book Of Magic And Other Dirty Tricks by Al Jaffee (# P 4163, 60¢).

A new paperback company called Centaur Books is scheduled to publish a line of fantasy books under the over-all title of The Time Lost Series. Many of the covers will be by Jeff Jones. Included in the series are two volumes of stories of Robert Howard's character, Solomon Kane.

Curtis Books has dipped into the pulp magazine piles for its western title, "Outlaws Of The Red Hills." The story is taken from The Masked Rider series (a Lone Ranger imitation, complete with his own Tonto).

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CHARLTON

Although my information is not complete on this, it appears that the management at Charlton has decided to drop or lessen the frequency of most of their current titles in favor of producing books featuring licensed characters (such as the King Features books, Abbott & Costello, etc.). It is my understanding that the decision was made not because the "house" books were doing badly (they aren't), but because the management felt there was a bigger potential in the licensed material. Two new King Features titles have already hit the stands: Tiger, and Snuffy Smith. I hope to have more detailed information on this subject in the next issue.

Jim Aparo is no longer doing The Phantom. He is now working solely for National Comics.

MARVEL

Captain Marvel will be back as a monthly, starting with the March releases. The book is being brought back due to the fact that the last three issues, which featured the NEW Capt. Marvel, sold quite well, two of the three issues doing extremely well! Roy Thomas will continue as scripter, with Gil Kane once again illustrating. The last few issues of Mighty Marvel Western sold well enough to warrent its immediate ressurection. Only a month or two will be missed on the schedule. Gary Friedrich has moved back to New York, and is once again scripting Sgt. Fury, as well as working on staff in another section of Magazine Management Corporation. Peter The Pest changes titles to just plain "Petey" in the fourth issue, which incidentally is the last. The reason for this is that the company has run out of reprintable material on that title, and sales of yet have not warrented new material being done. The book will be replaced on the schedule by a magazine that will be of the same ilk, but which will have no specific character named in the title, thereby allowing Marvel to use reprint material from several old books with the same general theme of troublesome kids. There appears to be the possibility, in the next several months, of Marvel issuing one or more new or revived titles in the adventure line. Perhaps more on this next issue. Berni Wrightson is working on a mystery tale for one of Marvels mags. Vince Colletta will be inking Thor again.

Yellowjacket and The Wasp will be taking a leave of absence from the Avengers for several months. They will be replaced by Quicksilver and The Scarlet Witch, both of whom will be somewhat revamped. The Witch's powers will be slightly altered and better defined, and Quicksilver's costume will now be blue. The Falcon will soon be appearing with Captain America once again. The Red Raven will be starring with Sub-Mariner as he trys to form an alience between Atlantis and his own skyborne kingdom. The 100th issue of Fantastic Four will feature villains galore.

The biggest news from Marvel this time around is that they will be doing a comic book version of CONAN, starting sometime in early 1970. The book will feature all new stories, probably written by Roy Thomas, who is quite familiar with the character. Further than this other details (artist, frequency of publication, etc.) have not been finalized. If Marvel can capture the sword & sorcery crowd in addition to their regular readership, they may just have the biggest winner of the upcoming year.

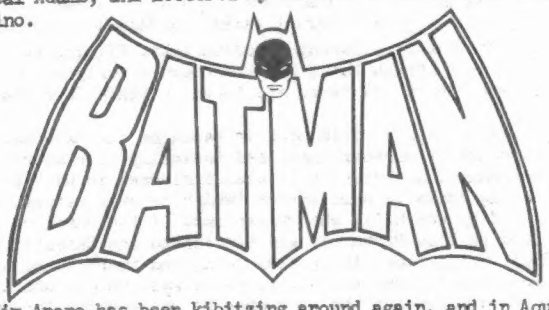
One final note. Starting in a few months, the Marvel books will begin carrying 2 half-page adds per issue, thereby effectively reducing the story page number to nineteen. Okay! that's economics! what can you do? But what really makes it ironic is the fact that National has just dropped the use of one-half and two-thirds pages! Which just goes to prove, I suppose, that you can not win them all.

NATIONAL--DC

To start, I'd like to correct a little wrong second-guessing I did in the last issue. Deadman first appears in issue number 74 of Challengers Of The Unknown, not number 73. The first 15 pages of that issue are scripted by Denny O'Neil and rendered by George Tuska, and involves the Challs in an adventure that leads up to their encounter with Deadman in the final 7 pages of the book (which are illustrated by Neal Adams and co-scripted by Denny and Neal). By the way, this book will be on the stands between the second and third installments of the Deadman story that is running in Aquaman. And as long as we're "by-the-way-ing", Denny needed a private eye for a cameo bit in this story, and rather than invent a new character, he used Jonny Double (of Showcase fame, or is that infamy?). Denny and Neal are also working on an unusual teamup for the Brave & Bold. Batman and The House Of Mystery! You've got to see this one to believe how they got out of it! Murphy Anderson will be both penciling and inking several stories for Jimmy Olsen. Bob Haney is now scripting tales for the Superman - Batman epics in World's Finest. The 400th issues of Action and Adventure Comics and the 200th issue Of World's Finest are soon to be upon us, and to celebrate the events, each of those particular issues will feature a story that involves all of the major characters that have appeared in that magazine since its first issue. Since each of the plot devices for those three issues have to be dissimilar, that's quite a writing task.

The 400th issue of Detective Comics will have the first Robin - Batgirl teamup, as scripted by Denny O'Neil. Neal Adams is taking his Batman assignments as he has time for them. Therefore, he will probably alternate with Bob Brown as Batman artist in Detective. Vince Colletta is inking Gil Kane's Robin stories. He is also inking some of Gil's Flash pages. By the way, Kane has modified Barry Allen's hairstyle somewhat, letting it grow just a

little longer. It's rather disturbing when you first see it! Justice League Of America # 80 picks up the plot threads left hanging by the untimely demise of the Atom / Hawkman book. It may be just my opinion, but having seen the run of upcoming Batman covers, it's just one blockbuster after another. The logo on Star-Spangled War Stories is being changed to de-emphasize Enemy Ace and emphasize the word WAR. This is because Von Hammer will be sharing the book with a brand-new strip, after several issues of sharing it with Viking Prince reprints. I've some more corrections to get out of the way. First, I somehow mistakenly typed that the final issue of Metal Men would be # 46 in the last issue of TCR. It was, of course, # 41. Secondly, in the listings this issue, under Jimmy Olsen # 127, I said that the secret slum-lord of Metropolis was really the publisher of the Daily Planet. That's wrong. The Planet's publisher tries to stop Olsen from revealing the true identity of the slum-lord. Sorry about that! Directly below is the new Batman logo, as created by Dick Giordano and Neal Adams, and lettered by the Ace of Letterers, Gaspar Saladino.



Jim Aparo has been kibitzing around again, and in Aquaman # 50 look for a panel or two where he slips in a few names of DC editors, writers, and artists (did I say a few; hell, it's just the immediate world!). In Aquaman # 51, you'll be meeting Tatsinda, something of a love-interest for Deadman. Arrrggghh! Starting with issue # 28, Steve Skeates will be writing Teen Titans. In store for the Titans is a triumphant return by Aqualad, and maybe even a new costume for Speedy (should they ever decide to use their costumes again). Len Wein has written one script for Hot Wheels at this point, and is writing some pretty unusual stuff as far as comics go — namely Poetry! He's corrupting (an ill chosen word, perhaps) familiar poems into the Witching Hour mold, and not necessarily playing it strictly for laughs. He is also writing original poems for Dick Giordano's romance titles. They are to be used as front pieces for the books; lettered in fancy script and illuminated by such artists as Gray Morrow, Alex Toth, Neal Adams, 'Elizabeth' (you'd know her work if you followed the love books!) and Dick Giordano (if he can PLEASE find the ~~#@%~~ time to do it). Actually, Len's quite a good poet; you should see some of the stuff he writes for himself, and not for 30 pieces of silver. Gerry Conway is also doing some off-beat material for Dick's books. He has written several 5-page text stories for The House Of Secrets. Half of each page will be text, the other half an illustration. And let me be the first to break the news that, at this time, it appears that Gerry has just made his first sale out of the comics field, a prose story to the supernatural magazine Coven 13. Gerry has written a book-length House Of Secrets story, which Neal Adams is currently working on. At the same time, Murphy Anderson is illustrating a full-length Secrets book authored by Bob Kanigher. Dick Giordano is getting a new book to edit: A reprint series of the Three Mouseketeers "funny animal" strip by Shelly Mayer.

I feel that any way I try to say this next item is going to sound like a con job. However, just bear in mind that I've already read the entire book, and I consider it one of the greatest comic books ever produced. Maybe you won't react to it as violently as I did, but then again maybe you will. Anyway ---

Green Lantern is being revamped....and more. The book is being written by Denny O'Neil and illustrated by Neal Adams under the editorship of Julie Schwartz. Green Arrow has as important a part in the tale as has GL, and they share equal billing on the cover. But that's just the skeleton of the change. There's more. To label the new GL I would have to call it the Comic Book Of Social Significance. The book is about 2 walking, talking, living, breathing anachronisms who suddenly find themselves among the realities of slums and prejudice and moral and ethical fabrications; about 2 men who discover they've been leading storybook lives and set out to find America, the real America.

The beauty of the book is that it sets out to make a strong statement, and manages to do so. And, surprise of surprises, it's even a good story. Look, I'll tell you more about GL # 76 in the next issue. Maybe by then I won't be too overwhelmed to communicate.

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For new readers: The number in parenthesis following a listing indicates the month / day of that issue's release date.

THE WITCHING HOUR (No. 7, Mar.) The lineup for this issue includes: a prolog and epilog scripted by Mike Friedrich and drawn by Alex Toth; "The Big Break," story by Steve Skeates, art by Bill Draut; "The Captive," another Skeates script with art by George Roussos; "Look Homeward, Angelo!" script by Mike Friedrich, art by Jack Abel; and the first of a series of one or two page filler stories written by Jack Miller, that will be appearing under the title "Trick Or Treat," the art chores are handled by Mike Kaluta. (12/16)

SUPERMAN (No. 224, Feb.) This issue features an imzginary novel that involves the premise that the "if & when" superson of the Man Of Steel may just be smarter than his dad. Result: Instant Generation Gap! (12/18)

OUR ARMY AT WAR (No. 216, Mar.)(Giant No. G-68) This year's War Annual reprints: Sgt. Rock in "Doom Over Easy"; "Introducing...The Haunted Tank," the first in that series; "Silver Star For A Tin Can"; "Last On A Match"; "Return To Beach Red"; and "The Unknown G.I." (12/18)

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (No. 149, Mar.) "Reach For The Heavens," this issue's Enemy Ace saga, delves into Hans Von Hammer's early life; how he joined the air corps, how he got that scar, and so forth. (A great story -- Ed. Opin.) The first of the Viking Prince reprints is titled, "The Terror-Stone." (12/23)

FROM BEYOND THE UNKNOWN (No. 3, Mar.) Reprints this time around include: "When Earth Turned Into A Comet" (which is cover featured; illustrated by Neal Adams from an old Strange Adventures cover by Murphy Anderson); "Prisoners Of The Electric Fire"; "The Space Hermit"; and "Escape From Earth." (12/23)

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD (No. 88, Mar.) Batman and Wildcat are teamed (with no explanation of the Earth - 1 / Earth - 2 discrepancy) in an adventure entitled, "Count 10 And Die!" Script by Bob Haney, pencils by Irv Novick, inks by Mike Esposito, cover art by Neal Adams. (12/23)

LOIS LANE (No. 99, Feb.) "Is Lois Lane Guilty" of the murder of Lana Lang? With Superman as the prosecutor and Batman as the defence council, there ought to be some courtroom fireworks. Reprinted in the issue is "The Man Who Was Clark Kent's Double." (12/23)

ADVENTURE (No. 389, Feb.) "Supergirl's Jiltted Boyfriends" is the sequel to last issue's "Romance Machine" story. The second story in the issue involves the Girl Of Steel with a magician. And come to think of it, that's about all I know about the issue. (12/24)

ACTION (No. 385, Feb.) A three part Superman saga, scripted by Cary Bates, begins in this issue. "The Immortal Superman" boasts some pretty interesting plotlines: Superman travels 1,000,000 years into the future and is unable to return to the present; However, he has aged 1,000,000 years in the process, as well as becoming totally invunerable (kryptonite and magic no longer affect him, and he has his super powers under any sun). Thus Superman finds himself an anachronism in a world where super-heroes (including the last Green Lantern) are an obsolete commodity. "The Fallen Star-Boy" makes a come-back in the issue's Legion Of Super-Heroes tale. (12/24)

DETECTIVE (No. 396, Feb.) Batman battles "The Brain Pickers"(reportedly a lurk of spies from Marvel!) in a story written by Frank Robbins and illustrated by Bob Brown and Joe Giella. Flower Children beware! "The Orchid Crusher" is coming! But never fear. Batgirl to the rescue, curtesy of "fearless" Frank Robbins, "gutsy" Gil Kane, and "mighty" Murphy Anderson. ((And at this point maybe I better stop typing for a while and grab a few hours sleep!)) Ooops! one more thing. The issue reprints an extra, "Master Of Mind Over Matter," written by Jack Miller, pencils by Gil Kane, inks by John Giunta. (12/24)

OUR ARMY AT WAR (No. 217, Mar.) There's a "Suprise Party" in store for Sgt. Rock, and part of that surprise is that Joe Kubert handles the art chores on this story. Also in the issue is "Come The Revolution," a Revolutionary War story written by Mike Friedrich and illustrated by Fred Ray; and a one-page feature called "So You Want To Be A Cartoonist," which Joe Kubert prepared in response to the many requests, from both young and adult would-be comics artists, he is constantly receiving. (12/30)

TOMAHAWK (No. 127, Apr.) "The Devil Is Waiting"(story by Robert Kanigher; art by Frank Thorne), but Tomahawk's Rangers aren't 'cause they don't wanna miss hearing "Big Anvil's Big Lie" (scripted by George Kashdan and illustrated by by Thorne). (12/30)

WONDER WOMAN (No. 187, Apr.) Diana Prince and I Ching travel to Hong Kong to battle "The Earth-Quaker," and re-encounter the forces of Dr. Cyber in the first part of a three-issue adventure. (12/30)

AQUAMAN (No. 50, Apr.) The biggest news in this issue is the fact that "Deadman Rides Again!" Neal Adams both wrote and drew the Deadman strip with a storyline that both parallels and amplifies Steve Skeates' Aquaman tale, "City On The Edge Of Nowhere!" Both the Aquaman and Deadman sagas will run for three issues (#'s 50 - 52), with the latter strip running about 7 pages in each issue. I have seen most of the artwork for these issues, and both Jim Aparo and Neal Adams have gone out of their ways to make these 3 books extra special. Prediction: Aquaman #'s 50 - 52 will be one of the big collector's items 10 years from now. (12/30)

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SUPERBOY (No. 163, Mar.) The Boy Of Steel meets "The Reform School Rebel"; scripted by Frank Robbins, penciled by Bob Brown, and inked by Mike Esposito. Reprinted in the issue is "The Super Robot," and there is a new installment of the Superboy Legend feature. (1/6)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (No. 185, Apr.) Of special interest to fans is the story entitled, "The Beautiful Beast," which is the first new story to be illustrated for DC by Al Williamson (script is by Joe Gill). Eleven pages of Williamson danky jungles, groovy girls and speckled beasties. Enjoy! (1/6)

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (No. 124, Apr.) The "Losers Take All" in their second time at bat in their own strip. Also, with this installment Andru & Esposito take over as the strip's artists. The first of the Jerry DeFuccio material we mentioned some time back appears in this issue with "Parable!", a tale of colonial India illustrated by John Severin. (1/8)

ADVENTURE (No. 390, Apr.)(Giant # G-69) The theme of the annual this time around is ROMANCE. The stories reprinted are: Supergirl's Wedding Day; The Secret Identity Of Super-Horse; Supergirl's Cowboy Hero (originally titled "The Human Super-Horse"); The Great Supergirl Mirage; and, When Supergirl Played Cupid (originally titled "Superman's Super Romance"). (1/8)

JIMMY OLSEN (No. 127, Mar.) Cover-featured is "The Secret Slum Lord Of Metropolis," in which Jimmy moves into a tenement in order to reveal the true identity of Metropolis's worst slum lord, only to find out that he is the publisher of the Daily Planet! Also in the issue is the conclusion to last issue's Revolutionary War tale, entitled "When Olsen Changed History." (1/13)

GREEN LANTERN (No. 75, Mar.) GL once again battles the Weaponers Of Qward. The prize: "The Golden Obelisk Of Qward!" John Broome supplied the script for Gil Kane's last penciling job on GL; Joe Giella is the inker. (1/13)

PHANTOM STRANGER (No. 6, Apr.) Starting with this issue, The Phantom Stranger book goes back to the original revival concept. That is to say, there will be one Phantom Stranger tale, one Dr. 13 story, and one story featuring both of these characters. However, ALL of the material will be new, and all of the stories inter-connected to form a book-length feature. Mike Sekowsky wrote this issue's stories (with Joe Orlando suppling the inter-story continuities); and Vince Colletta penciled the issue. (1/13)

TEEN TITANS (No. 26, Apr.) The Titan's turf stretches from city slums to outer space in "Penny For A Black Star," a story written by Bob Kanigher and illustrated by Nick Cardy. OF SPECIAL NOTE: The story contains the comics' first (to my knowledge, anyway) inter-racial embrace. (Ah, those small milestones!) (1/15)

STRANGE ADVENTURES (No. 223, Apr.) Cover-featured is the Atomic Knights classic, "War In Washington." Adam Strange battles "The Beast With The Sizzling Blue Eyes." Extra added attraction this time around is "The Genius Epidemic" (art by Irwin Hasen!). (1/15)

JERRY LEWIS (No. 117, Apr.) "Jerry meets the new WONDER WOMAN!" in a book-lengther scripted by Alan Riefe. (1/15)

BATMAN (No. 220, Mar.) A phone rings! Batman steps into the empty phonebooth to answer the call! The booth explodes!! Then comes the ominous message, "This Murder Has Been Pre-Recorded!" This book-lengther was scripted by Frank Robbins; penciled by Irv Novick; and inked by Dick Giordano. The issue also sports the first appearance of the new Batman logo; designed by Dick Giordano and Neal Adams. (1/20)

THE FLASH (No. 195, Mar.) Flash defends the rights of a "Fugitive From Blind Justice," a seeing-eye german shepherd named Streak! (Shades of Rex, The Wonder Dog!!) ((Or, if you're old enough to remember, Shades of the original Green Lantern's Streak, The Wonder Dog!!!)) Robert Kanigher's script marks Gil Kane's penciling debut on the Flash strip; Murphy Anderson inks. Filling out the issue is "I Open My Mouth But I Can't Scream!"; scripted by Mike Friedrich, penciled by Gil Kane, and inked by Vince Colletta. (1/20)

HOT WHEELS (No. 1, Apr.) This book is based on the Saturday morning Hanna-Barbera TV cartoon show, and basically it elaborates on the show's premise, although it is also influened in part by the Charlton racing books to some extent (which is only natural since it is scripted by Joe Gill, who writes most of the Charlton books; and is edited by Dick Giordano, who had edited the Charlton books at one time). The artwork is by Alex Toth, and there is no one in a better position to draw the strip, as he was the one who created the character designs for the show when he was working for Hanna-Barbera. This premiere issue features a book-length story, which introdues the characters to those readers who are approaching Hot Wheels "cold." Future issues will feature a 15 page lead story illustrated by Toth, and an 8 page back-up story illustrated by Ric Estrada. (1/20)

WORLD'S FINEST (No. 192, Mar.) Bob Haney's first Superman-Batman script is entitled "The Prison Of No Escape," and it's the first half of a two-parter to be concluded in the next issue. The plot concerns the machinations of an Iron Curtin Dictator to trap the Man Of Steel behind the boarders of a non-U.N. member country by using kryptonite to counter his powers. Then it's Batman to the rescue! This issue's Round-"Robin"--Table Reprint is "Danger In The Hall Of Trophies." (1/22)

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (No. 79, Mar.) The sequel to last issue's anti-pollution propaganda is entitled, "Come Slowly Death — Come Slyly!" (1/22)

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SHOWCASE (No. 89, Mar.) JASON'S QUEST continues with "The Deadly Chase." (1/22)
ACTION (No. 386, Mar.) This sequel to last issue's tale finds the aged and obsolete Superman residing at "The Home For Old Super-Heroes"; another inhabitant of which happens to be the last Green Lantern. An old villainess from the Legion Of Super-Heroes past cases returns and "Zap Goes The Legion." (1/27)
ADVENTURE (No. 391, Mar.) This issue finds the Girl Of Steel in the roles of "Linda Danvers — Super Star," and "The Super Exchange Student." (1/27)
DETECTIVE (No. 397, Mar.) If you've been a comics fan for any length of time, you've probably heard the old saw about how Orsen Welles' classic movie, Citizen Kane," was greatly affected by then current comic strip techniques. Well, turn-about is fair play, so here's a Batman saga that was inspired by Citizen Kane. "Paint A Picture Of Peril" was authored by Denny O'Neil, penciled by Neal Adams, inked by Dick Giordano. Frank Robbins, Gil Kane, and Murphy Anderson supply the words and pictures as Batgirl tangles with "The Hollow Man." (1/27)

FANZINE INDEX

—— Compiled and rated by JOHN McGEEHAN

John is a completist and will buy at least one copy of every fanzine. However, if you fanzine editors out there would like your fanzines reviewed and indexed in this column, it might be a nice gesture if you'd send John a complimentary copy of your publication.

The address is: JOHN McGEEHAN, 405 E. 5th ST. SANTA ANA CALIF., 92701.

EXPLANATION OF LISTING CODE:
In order, the listing consists of title, latest issue, date received, No. of pages (no. of blank pages), address, printing process, price folded (price flat), rating number. "as" indicates amateur strip. "ERB" indicates Edgar Rice Burroughs zine.

RATING SYSTEM:
(5) a zine worth any fan's money.
(4) for all but the most discriminating fan.
(3) an average zine for buying after 4s and 5s.
(2) for fans with charitable or masochistic tendancies.
(1) for completists, friends and parents.

A.C.E. 1--Oct 6, 52(14) pgs, Amateur Comic Enterprizes, 739 E. 45th St., Brooklyn, N.Y., 11203. Xerox, 60(0), 2.

All Dynamic 3--Nov 19, 28 - 7" x 9" pgs, Alan Light, RR#1, Box 297, E. Moline, Ill., 61244. Litho, 35(none available), 3.

Bombshell Bulletin 5--Oct 17, 8(4) + a 10(5) pg 'Horror' am strip supplement, Gary Groth, 7263 Evanston Rd., Springfield, Va., 22150. Xerox, 10(5), okay for those who get Gary's main publication (FANTASTIC FANZINE) and a 1 to those who don't.

Capa-Alpha 61--Nov 12, 192(12) pgs, Fred Patten, Apt. 1, 11863 W. Jefferson Blvd., Culver City, Calif., 90230. Ditto/Mimeo/Litho, membership, 5.

Captain George's Comic World 25&26(a double numbered issue)--Nov 1, 80 - 7-1/2" x 11" pgs, Memory Lane Publications, 594 Markham St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Litho, ten issues for $3.00 in lots of ten such as #1 thru 10, #11 thru 20, etc. ONLY (0), 5. If you have yet to subscribe to this excellent publication, you had better do so now before the only copies left for sale are from dealers asking many, many times the original price for issues of this collector's item publication. You might not like all of the material; but you'll certainly enjoy your $3.00 worth such as the reprint of the Silver Star strip by Staney Pitt in the current issue and the reprint of a '43 Timely comic with a Sub-Mariner, Captain America, Human Torch, Vision & The Patriot stories in the previous double numbered one (#23 & 24). Get them NOW or you may be among those who will regret that they didn't later on!

Champion 7--Oct 29, 16 pgs, Bob Cosgrove, 58 Mass. Ave., Braintree, Mass., 02185. Litho, 35(0), 5.

Collector, The 16--Oct 1, 16 + 4, 5-1/2" x 8-1/2" pgs, Bill Wilson, 1535 Oneida Dr., Jefferson Boro, Clairton, Pa., 15025. Litho, 25(0), 5.

Collector's Gallery 2--Oct 10, 52(26) pgs, Richard Frazier, 4 Juniper Rd., Holbrook, Mass., 02343. Xerox, 60(0), a 2 to comic fans & a 3 to multi fans.

Comic Artist, The 2--Nov 24, 24 pgs, Lamar Blaylock, 2349 Ewing Dr., Atlanta, Ga., 30319. Litho, 50(0), the entire is devoted to Joe Kubert & it rates a 5 to Kubert fans & even the non-fan who wants material on pros.

Comic Book Fan Fair 12--Nov 12, 26(2) pgs, Greg Potter, 97 Massasoit Dr., Warick, Rhode Island, 02888. Mimeo, 35(0), 3.

Comic Crusader, The 7--Nov 19, 26 pgs, Martin L. Greim, Box 132, Dedham, Mass., 02026. Litho, 35(0), 5.

Comic Forum 7--Oct 28, 26 + 2(1) 5-1/2" x 8-1/2" pgs, Billy Mc Kinnon, 2352 Albans, Houston, Texas, 77005. Litho, 30(10), 3.

Comickazi 1--Nov 20, 56 pgs, Sucide Publications. 181 E. Taylor St., Apt. 5, San Jose, Cal., 95112. Litho, $1.35(0), the repro, layout, editing & stapling rates a 5; but the high price & varied types of material makes the overall rating depend upon how much of the material you enjoy & how well you can afford $1.35 for this one item or rather if you have that much left after acquiring all the cheaper & more worthwhile publications to you that you want. The contents includes: a 7 page am strip that is a satire on Conan; a reprint of 4 '38 Prince Valiant strips; an interview with Bama; 3 pgs of movie stills with gag captions;a 6 page sf portfolio; a 3 page excellent illustrated guide on how to produce a fanzine with serious text & gag illus; reprints of 5 issues of FAMOUS FUNNIES covers done by Frazetta; original art reprints to show various techniques concisting of a '58 Kirby-Wood daily strip, a '52 Tufts daily strip, a page of Kubert art in G.I. Combat & a comic mag page by Al Feldstein; and several other odds & ends. The pub IS worth getting if you have $1.35 to spare; but I believe that a lot of fans won't & the publisher will either have to reduce the price & possibly the page count or else be satisfied with a low circulation & hope that eventually with frequent issues he can bring the circulation up enough to lower the price enough to join the ranks of the 500+ circulation, 5 rated every issue publications in the comic slanted amateur publications field.

Comicology 3--Oct 11, 16 pgs of reduced in size typing & artwork which the publisher says equals 58 pgs of regular size typing, Douglas Fratz, RR#1, Accident, Md., 21520. Litho, 25(10), a 5 to anyone who doesn't mind the small print & since it is all fairly easy to read I doubt if many or hardly any persons will find fault or won't get it for that reason alone.

Comicon 1--Oct 13, 22 pgs, Bill Drake, 219 N. Lee St., Prospect Heights, Ill., 60070. Litho, 62(0), the printing & layout rates a 5, the material rates a 3 & few will consider it worth the high cost per page it sells for.

Comic Reader, The (#74 & 75 sent at the same time) 6 pgs each, Mark Hanerfeld, 42-42 Colden St., Flushing, N.Y., 11355. Litho, 20(10) or two or more issues for 15(10) each, 5.

Crifanac 6--Nov 6, 6 pgs, Doug Fratz, address above, Mimeo, 10(10), the majority of the contents in the issues has been info on & reviews of current & forthcoming zines & it rates a 5 with those who want it.

Electra Fanzine 2--Oct 6, 72(36) pgs, Adam Malin, 197-50 C. Peck Ave., Flushing, N.Y., 11365. Xerox, 60(0), 1.

ERB-dom 27--Sep 29, 20 pgs, Camile Cazedessus Jr., Box 550, Evergreen, Colorado, 80439. (ERB), Litho, 50(0), 5.

Fandom Newsletter 22--Nov 19, 10(1) pgs, Charles Korbas, 379 Virgil Rd., Dryden, N.Y., 13053. Ditto, 5(0 upon request), a 5 to those interested in trying to be a completest or wanting some idea of what zines are out and what they are about.

Fan Informer, The 16&17 (a double numbered issue)-- Oct 25, 10 pgs, The F.F.C.C. (Arvell M. Jones), Dept. N, 5729 Cadillac, Detroit, Mich., 48213. Litho, 30(10), 3.

Freon 2-1/2--Nov 4, 24 pgs, Dwight Decker, 50 Cherrington Rd., Westerville, Ohio, 43081. Ditto, 25(10), 3. The second issue will be out in a month or so.

Gosh Wow 3--Oct 14, 36 pgs, Robert Schoenfeld, 9516 Minerva, St. Louis, Mo., 63114. Litho, 50(0), 5.

Graphic Showcase 2--Oct 6, 48 pgs, C.C.A.S. Publications (Tom Long, Ed.), Box 8957, Richmond, Va., 23225. (as), Litho, $1.25(0), 5. The publisher requests that you don't order the second issue until adv. for sale.

Heroes Unlimited 7--Oct 29, 54(2) pgs, Anthony Roche, 2 St. John's Park, Mounttown, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Mimeo, 50(0), 5. The publisher has no USA agent at present; so instead of sending coins one should send $1.00 for two copies of one issue or one copy of two issues.

Heroic 5--Nov 10, 56 & a 14 page ad supplement, Gordon Matthews, 8 Perry St., Union City, Penn., 16438. Ditto, 45(0), 3. This is the last issue.

Journey Into Comics 7--Oct 28, 20 pgs, Paul Legrazie Jr., 250 Garth Road Apt. 7A3, Scarsdale, N.Y., 10583. (as), Litho, 30(0), 4.

Mighty Crazy 1--Nov 15, 40 pgs, Mitch Scheele, 455 Cascade Dr., Lebanon, Ore., 97355. (as&tf), Xerox, 60(0), 2.

Modern Collector's Review 3--Nov 4, 48 + 10 pg mimeo + 2(1) pg photo copy + 2 pg 8-1/2" x 14" mimeo supplements, John McLaughlin, 890 Savory Dr., Sunnyvale, Cal., 94087. Litho, 35(0), 4.

Motley 6--Nov 17, 20 - 5-1/2" x 8-1/2" pgs, John Kowal, Route #1, 5079 Wedgewood Rd., Medina, Ohio, 44256. Litho, 40(0), 3.

Napalm 6--Nov 10, 10 pgs, Wally Conger, Route 1, Box 450-A, Arroyo Grande, Cal., 93420. (gabzine), Mimeo, 15(10?), a 5 to those who like gabzines & currently it ranks over the others due to its very frequent publication.

New Fangles 28--Nov 22, 8 pgs, Don & Margaret Thompson, 8786 Hendricks Rd., Mentor, Ohio, 44060. (news & info zine), Mimeo, 10(folded in three & mailed in a legal size envelope), 5.

Nucleus 2--Nov 17, 44(22)-7" x 8-1/2" pgs, N.U.C.S., 2300 Drum Creek Rd., Chesapeake, Va., 23321. Xerox (actually the editor mentions it was done on a 3M machine; but as most of you know, I list all coping machine reproduction as xerox for simplicities sake even tho the word is a trakmark name & NOT a genetic term & thus shouldn't be used as such), 25¢ to members of the NUCS and 30¢ to non-members(folded in three & sent in a legal size envelope), 3. The next issue is planed as a double numbered one & entirely offset that will cost 40¢ & 50¢. With the fifth issue on the price will be 30¢ to members & 40¢ to non-members. The size will also be changed to 8-1/2" x 11" & I presume that all future issues will be lithoed with the size change taking place on either the next or the 5th issue. Plans are not always carried out tho & so don't be suprised if one or more of the mentioned changes don't occur.

OAF 30--Nov 24, 20(1) pgs, Bart Bush, 713 Sugar Maple, Ponca City, Oklahoma, 74601. Ditto, 20(10), 2.

Plegafris 1--Nov 17, 42 pgs, Dave Fritzpatrick, 29 Cleveland St., Arlington, Mass., 02174. (as,tf & a text satire on TIME MAGAZINE), Xerox, 25(?), 4.

Post Scripts 1--Oct 14, 24(12) pgs, Paul Levitz, 393 E. 58th St., Brooklyn, N.Y., 11203. Xerox, 35 & a 6¢ stamp(5), 2. The next issue will contain 10 pgs & cost 35(5) & no stamp. It rates a 2 to Marvel fen & a 1 to non-Marvel fen.

Rocket's Blast,The - Comic Collector 66--Nov 5, 108 pgs, Gordon B. Love, 9875 SW 212 St., Miami, Fla., 33157. (adzine), Litho, 65(10), 5.

Seraphim (formerly THE E.C. FAN ADDICT) 4--Oct 27, 16 pgs, Thomas Veilleux, 42 Sterling St., Waterville, Maine, 04901. Litho, 40(0), a 5 to the E.C. fan.

Stan's Weekly Express 9--Nov 21, 6 - 8-1/2" x 14" pgs, Stan's Weekly Express, 4324 St. John's Ave., Dayton, Ohio, 45406. (adzine), 25(probably unavailable since our copies were folded into four, stapled in the center and sent first class mail. The large size paper & small page count makes envelope,flat mailing hard & therefore unavailable from most zine eds), I haven't seen enough issues to know if the pub is weekly & the price per page is high; but you may want to try an issue & help "Stan" put out a weekly adzine or as close to it as he can manage. It is mimeographed.

Stories of Suspense 5--Oct 6, 40(1) pgs, Marvin Wolfman, 142 - 18 59th Ave., Flushing, N.Y., 11355. Ditto, 20(5), a 5 to fans of text fiction as its entire contents consists of text fiction. This fifth issue was also the last one and S.ofS. now regretably has joined the ranks of the worthwhile zines that have become defunct.

Super Adventures 10--Oct 6, 42(1) pgs, Marvin Wolfman, address above. (mostly as & tf), Ditto, 40?(0), a 5 to fans of this type of tf & am strips and it deals with non-super hero characters such as a Space Viking, a secret agent & a 'horror' strip. This was the final issue & it also is the demise of a very worthwhile publication.

True Fan Adventure Theater 1--Nov 4, 34 pgs, Dwight Decker, 50 Cherrington Rd., Westerville, Ohio, 43081. (fiction), Ditto, 25(10), It rates a 5 with those who like fiction tales that feature fans & collectors in a sort of a span of time in the life of Joe Fan or Charlie Collector (this is my description & not the names of any of the characters in the stories--John). They are in the general vein of John Stockman's masterpieces in his TALES OF TORMENT and will be appreciated by anyone who likes 'fanish fiction'.

Voyage Into The Center of Comics 1--Oct 11, 20 pgs, Robert Viacek, 150 Vernon Ave., Yonkers, N.Y., 10704. (sketches by pro artists & am strips), Litho, 65(0), It is only worth it to those who consider the 11 pgs of sketches by various pro artists worth the price as the am strip portion is of poor quality.

Leech 3--Nov 27, 6 pgs, Warren Bluhm, D57 Brook Dr., Chester, New Jersey, 07930. (gabzine), Ditto, 10(folded in three & mailed in a legal size envelope), a 5 to fans of gabzines like LEECH, NAPALM & ASTERISK.

Fanzine, A (formerly DISNEYDOM) 2--Nov 5, 32 pgs, Dan McAvoy, 5720 Middaugh St., Downers Grove, Ill., 60515. Litho, 65(0), a 5 to Walt Disney fans.

Hero-Hobby 17--Oct 25, 28 pgs, John R. Cooper, Route 1, Box 371, Clarksburg, W. Va., 26301. Litho, $1.00(0), a 5 to fans of radio, pulps, comics, etc. and less to those who aren't interested in the variety of fields covered.

Huh? 6--Oct 18, 32 pgs, Mark Lamberti, 11830 Hampstead Lane, Dallas Texas, 75230. Litho, 75(0), a 5 to fans of the variety of material it contains such as a story title & issue date listing of the 325 issues of THE SHADOW magazine, a 3 page review, with photos, of THE PRISONER, a well illustrated article with photos on film animators such as O'Brien, Harryhausen & Danforth and reprints of stills from films.

New Forerunner, The 7--Oct 23, 24 pgs, Gary Mason, Warili Rd., French's Forrest, New South Wales, Australia, 2086. Mimeo, 20¢ each or five issues for $1.00(0) (please remit payment by check as Gary has a bank account in the U.S.), This pub gives info, news, data & comments covering the comics, sf&f, etc. fields in Australia and it is well worth getting by anyone interested in Australian fan & pro dom.

Tales of Torment 11--Nov 24, 36 pgs, John E. Stockman, 5553 Glenway Ave., Lot #64, Cincinnatti, Ohio, 45238. Mimeo, 25(10), a 5 to those who enjoy the finest of fan fiction dealing with dishonest & honest dealers, fans & collectors. The only material in this field being published can be found in T.of T. and TRUE FAN ADV. THEATER and both are MUST readings for fans, collectors & dealers alike.